

GET READY, SANTA BARBARA!

Increasing emergency awareness and preparedness in our community

Hit the road, Jack!

Being safe while driving this holiday season

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You might have plans to visit your out of state relative or maybe your daughter is driving home from college to spend some days in Santa Barbara's mild-winter. Perhaps you're just having friends coming to your fabulous dinner or heading yourself for a day trip a couple of driving hours away. In any case, driving during the holidays can be a pleasure on itself, or become a nightmare and a stressful event. Safety is usually the last thing we think about at this time of the year, nevertheless, planning and preparing ahead of time can help avoid risky situations for you and your guests.



Maintenance, maintenance, maintenance!

Besides your routine maintenance, be sure to thoroughly check –or have checked –your car's tires, heating / cooling system including hoses, as well as belts, and other highway wreck favorites.

Make an Emergency Car Kit

Have you ever had to spend the night in your car while on the road? If you said yes, you know what we're talking about. If you answered no, well, please don't find out without being prepared. Just like you did at home, prepare a kit that includes food, water, a first aid kit, flashlights and batteries, etc. It is wise to also include blankets or sleeping bags as well as an emergency tool kit with tire repair goods, jumper cables, flares, fire extinguisher, etc.

Driving in bad weather

You should avoid driving under storm conditions, but if you must, keep your gas tank full to avoid fuel line freezing. Let someone know when you are leaving, your expected arrival time, as well as the route you're planning to take.

Drinks, anyone?

Yes, we know you're the entertainer type of person and enjoy offering fancy drinks to your guests. Just remember some of them will be behind the wheel, so it is thoughtful to include some non-alcoholic beverages on your menu. And if you're the one driving, prepare some punch and bring it along!



**Non-alcoholic
Christmas Punch**

- ♦ 2 cups white grape juice
- ♦ 2 really ripe mashed bananas
- ♦ 1 cup each of pineapple and mango juice
- ♦ 2 cups ginger ale,
- ♦ 1 quart of sparkling water or plain soda
- ♦ 1/2 a cup blueberries
- ♦ 1 cup raspberries
- ♦ 1 tin mandarin segments.

Mix all together, sweeten to taste. Decorate with chopped mint leaves and cinnamon sticks. Serve chilled!

12-Months to Preparedness

Don't forget your comfort items!

For your last assignment, think about what you have that makes you feel comfortable. Maybe it is a pillow that helps you sleep, pictures of your family, a special (shelf stable) food? Whatever it is, add it to your kit. Small items that comfort you are more than worth the space they may take up in your bag. A deck of cards for a game of go-fish with your family or a chocolate bar may be just what you need after the trauma of a disaster. For children consider items like a stuffed animal, crayons and paper or other small game or toy. These things will not only keep them entertained, but will also distract them for a bit from what can be a confusing and uncertain time.

Celebrate!

Your no cost item this month is a pat on the back! Celebrate! You did it! You and your family are PREPARED! It feels good, right? Knowing that you are set for disaster is a relief, but there is no rest for the weary! Now that you are knowledgeable, educate your friends and extended family! Encourage them to make a kit by showing them yours. They'll certainly thank you every time they use it!



Upcoming Issues

2014!

January Floods



FEBRUARY

Windstorms

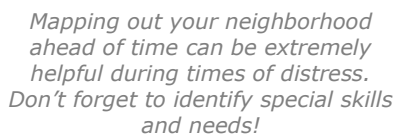
MARCH Tsunamis

APRIL Earthquakes

Knowing your Neighbor can save lives!

Preparedness always begins at home, so be sure to have your family emergency plan, ready kit, and food and water supply prepared.

July 29, 2013



Don't wait until a disaster strikes to get to know your neighbors. Start now and get prepared together, planning for the worst and hoping for the best!

Santa Barbara History—What's in its name?



Saint Barbara, Patron Saint of the Artillery
<http://www.militaryphotos.net>

As early as grade school, Santa Barbara's young residents learn about *Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo* – Rodríguez being actually his last name, not Cabrillo –and how he was the first European to contact the local inhabitants in the middle of the XVI century. Sadly, he died before returning to his base, resulting in the loss of most of the information he gathered from this first voyage. More than 50 years had to pass before a printed account of the trip was available, and by then, another exploration was being deployed.



Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo



Led by *Don Sebastián Vizcaino*, a second expedition departed from Acapulco in 1602 looking for a safe harbor to serve as a stop between New Spain and the Philippines, and map the Upper California coastline as well. Thus, a main component of the expedition was a group of surveyors and cartographers headed by *Fr. Antonio de la Asención*.

Although the voyage seemed to basically retrace most of *Rodríguez Cabrillo's* original route, it provided a documented account of the area. All the places previously charted and named by *Rodríguez Cabrillo* were more precisely mapped and re-named, although California was defined as a large island, instead of a peninsula, a misconception that took more than a century to be rectified.



Vizcaino's fleet sailed for close to six months before it reached California. On December 2nd, they entered the Santa Barbara Channel, and two days later, an interesting report was accounted for. "...on the 4th of the said month, we were struck by a heavy northwester, with a high sea, and were obliged to take off the bonnets and run with lower sails, so that we became separated from each other...", describes the Diary of *Vizcaino*.

Some refer the aforementioned storm as the inspiration for giving our area the name of Santa Barbara – a saint then heavily invoked to protect against thunder –whereas others make reference to the fact that it was encountered, mapped and registered precisely on the 4th of December.

Whichever the case, Santa Barbara Channel was first defined as such after December 4, 1602. The Presidio founding by *Fray Junípero Serra* in 1782 followed suit, and so did the Mission's four years later. As to who was responsible for the naming, it is, once again, unclear. Both *Vizcaino* and *de la Ascención* are given credit in different texts.

In summary, Santa Barbara was named after a legendary and colorful figure, by a crew led by *Vizcaino* in 1602. Now, what does seem to be clear is the fact that our area is linked to big natural storms and disasters as early as its first documented texts! History has shown us it's not a matter of "if", but "when" the next one will strike, so it's just fair to keep saying, **Get Ready, Santa Barbara!**

For more information on Saint Barbara [click here](#)

For more information on Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, [click here](#)

For more information on Sebastián Vizcaino's Diary, [click here](#)

Do you have some Santa Barbara history you want to share? Maybe you have some interesting family history you want to share or maybe you have a question about something. We want to hear it! Send us your stories of, or questions about, Santa Barbara history to:

PRomero@SantaBarbaraCa.gov

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We're on the Web!

www.santabarbaraca.gov/oes

and



December Challenge —

Well, it's that time of the year again, the season of sharing, and giving, and... having fun! This month we challenge you with holiday disaster trivia, fun enough to be shared!

1. Mistletoes and Poinsettias are traditional holidays decorations as well as:

- a. Great if used as condiments
- b. Harmful if ingested by humans and pets
- c. Energy equalizers
- d. So out of fashion!

2. The safest way to use candles is:

- a. On a sturdy non-flammable candlestick
- b. Three feet away from combustible materials
- c. Away from drafts
- d. All of the above

3. Bodie, CA, just east of Sierra Nevada, holds the record (outside Alaska) for most days of freezing temperatures per year in the U.S. How many, though?

- a. 255
- b. 308
- c. 345

4. Handel's "The Messiah" was first brought into stage in 1742 during:

- a. Christmas Eve
- b. New Year's Eve
- c. Easter
- d. None of the above

3. Mistletoes and Poinsettias are traditional holidays decorations as well as

City News: A Time to Give









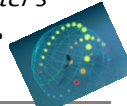



The Santa Barbara Fire Department is participating in the annual holiday toy drive benefiting Toys for Tots by collecting toys at each of their eight (8) Fire Stations. The toy collection drive will begin on November 20, 2013. Each station will have a collection box for new, unwrapped toys.

Toys for Tots began in 1947, when Major Bill Hendricks, USCR and a group of Marine Reservists in Los Angeles collected and distributed 5,000 toys to needy children. The 1947 pilot project was so successful that the Marine Corps adopted Toys for Tots in 1948 and expanded it into a nationwide campaign. That year, Marine Corps Reserve units across the nation conducted Toys for Tots campaigns in each community in which a Marine Reserve Center was located. Marines have conducted successful nationwide campaigns at Christmas each year since 1948.



Upcoming Events

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Eat a Red Apple Day</i>	2 	3	4 <i>Santa's List Day</i> 	5 <i>Repeal Day</i> 	6	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Day</i> 
8 <i>National Brownie Day</i> 	9	10 <i>Human Rights Day</i> 	11	12	13	14
15 <i>Bill of Rights Day</i>	16	17	18  <i>Bake Cookies</i>	19	20 <i>Go Caroling Day</i> 	21 <i>Winter's Solstice</i> 
22	23 <i>Happy Festivus Day!</i> 	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 	26	27	28
29	30	31  <i>New Year's Eve</i>				